

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health  
for the year ended 31st December, 1948.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
 Ashbourne Urban District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report on the health, sanitary circumstances, vital statistics and various activities of the Health Department for the year ended 1948.

Statistics of the Area.

Area - 1075 acres.  
 Estimated number of inhabited houses - 1,654.  
 Rateable value - £32,561.  
 Production of the penny rate - £125.  
 Population - 5190.

Extract from Vital Statistics of the Year.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Births.	58.	62.	120.
Legitimate.	57.	53.	
Illegitimate.	1.	9.	
Birth rate per 1000 of the civilian population -	24.0.		
Average Birth rate for England & Wales -	17.9.		

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Still Births.	-.	-.	-.
Deaths.	26.	33.	59.
Deaths of Infants under one year of age - Legitimate.	6.	1.	7.
Death rate per 1000 of the civilian population -	11.8.		
Average Death rate for England and Wales -	10.8.		
Natural increase of population (excess of births over deaths) -	61.		
Number of persons dying in consequence of childbirth -	3.		
From Puerperal sepsis -	0.		
From other maternal causes -	2.		
Average Infantile mortality rate for England & Wales per 1000 -	34.		

<u>Deaths from selected causes.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Cancer all ages.	3.	8.	11.
Measles.	1.	-.	1.
Heart Disease.	5.	11.	16.
Whooping Cough.	-.	-.	-.
Influenza.	1.	-.	1.
Diphtheria.	-.	-.	-.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Number of children immunised during the year - 123.  
 Approximate number of children in the area - 1149.  
 Cases of Diphtheria reported during the year - 0.

Evidence of and control over Infectious and other Diseases.

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Cases notified.</u>	<u>Cases admitted to Hospital.</u>	<u>Deaths.</u>
Scarlet Fever.	26.	24.	-.
Infantile Paralysis.	1.	1.	-.
Erysipelas.	9.	1.	-.
Measles.	265.	-.	1.
Pneumonia.	7.	1.	2.
Whooping Cough	6.	-.	-.
Puerperal Pyrexia.	1.	-.	-.

## Tuberculosis.

It has not been necessary to take any action under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulation 1925 or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

New cases and mortality during 1948:-

### Respiratory.

2.

### Non-Respiratory.

3.

### Deaths.

3 Respiratory.

## WATER SUPPLY.

The average daily consumption of water during the year was 196,000 gallons, which is equivalent to 35 gallons per head per day. This includes water supplied to the Darley Moor Displaced Persons Camp, and converted camp buildings now used for temporary housing purposes.

The whole of the supply of water is softened by the Base Exchange process. During the year repairs were carried out to the Water Softening Plant, and the softening mineral renewed.

The water supply is from the same source as in previous years. The result of chemical analysis and bacteriological examination has shown the water to be of satisfactory quality for drinking purposes.

The rainfall recorded during the year was 34.13 inches, as compared with 27.53 inches for the previous year.

## SEWERAGE & SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

No additions, extensions, or improvements have been carried out on sewerage or sewage disposal, during the year.

The average daily engine hours pumping at the Sewage Disposal Works during the year, was 12.00 hours; and the average quantity of sewage pumped and treated per day was 282,500 gallons.

The result of a chemical analysis carried out by the County Analyst proved the effluent to be entirely satisfactory.

Application has been made to the Ministry of Health for sanction to a loan to extend the sewer in the Derby Road Area, in order to provide for houses not on the conservancy system, and for further development in this area.

## LEGISLATION.

No Local Acts, special orders, adoptive Acts or byelaws relating to Public Health came into force during the year.

## HOUSING.

Continued progress has been made in the erection of houses on the Council's Park Land Estate. Fifty-six parlour type dwellings have been completed and occupied during the year, and the total number of dwellings occupied - including eight double dwellings - at the end of the year, was eighty-four. Work was commenced on the construction of further dwellings under the Third Contract for fifty houses.

The Council have been notified by the Ministry of Health of the further allocation of forty houses for the year 1949. The Council have agreed to allocate eight of these to private enterprise.

Two new houses have been completed and occupied during the year by private enterprise, and in one instance dwelling accommodation has been provided by the conversion of rooms.

Four licences for the erection of new houses have been issued during the year.



## MEAT INSPECTION.

Two Slaughterhouses are in use by the Ministry of Food, for the slaughter of animals required in Ashbourne and District.

Carcases are regularly inspected by the Sanitary Inspector and condemnation notes issued for meat which is of unsatisfactory quality for human consumption.

Details as to Carcases Inspected and Condemned during the year, are as follows:-

	<u>Cattle</u> <u>Excluding</u> <u>Cows.</u>	<u>Cows.</u>	<u>Calves.</u>	<u>Sheep</u> <u>&amp;</u> <u>Lambs.</u>	<u>Pigs.</u>
Number killed.	1.	706.	982.	2003.	28.
Number Inspected.	1.	706.	982.	2003.	28.
<u>All Diseases except T.B.</u>					
Whole carcases condemned.	-.	4. 1768.lbs.	1. 90.lbs.	-.	-.
Carcases of which some part of organ was condemned.	-.	4. 297.lbs.	1. 18.lbs.	-	-.
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis.	-.	.011.%	.002.%	-.	-.
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>					
Whole carcases condemned.	-.	17. 8928.lbs.	-.	-.	-.
Carcases of which some part of organ was condemned.	-.	24. 1456.lbs.	-.	-.	-.
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis.	-.	5.5.%	-.	-.	-.

## RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The scheme prepared for the alleviation of the Henmore Brook flooding, is still awaiting the decision of the County Council, concerning the amount of the grant to be made towards the cost of the work involved.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING.

A new 11 cubic yard Shelvoke and Drewry Collecting vehicle has been purchased during the year.

House Refuse is collected weekly from all properties in the district, and is disposed of in a Meldrum Refuse Destructor. Tins, rags, bones, bottles and rubber is extracted from the refuse, and sold for salvage.

Waste paper is collected and disposed of for salvage, and the average quantity sold per month is  $4\frac{1}{2}$  tons.

## AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The Bedford Motor Ambulance previously maintained by the Council was handed over to the County Council under the National Health Service, on the 1st July, 1948; and this vehicle is garaged at the Hall Stables, Cokayne Avenue, Ashbourne.

## DAIRIES, COW-SHEDS AND MILK-SHOPS.

There are now on the Register 13 Retail Purveyors of Milk and 18 Wholesale Traders. Inspections have been regularly carried out by

DAIRIES, COW-SHEDS AND MILK-SHOPS. (CONT.)

the Sanitary Inspector, and notices served, where necessary, to cleanse and limewash premises.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

The Sanitary Inspector has received various notices from H.M. Inspector of Factories, chiefly in connection with Factory and Workshop Bakehouses. The complaints have been investigated and the necessary notices served. Lists of outworkers have been submitted in February and August, as required by the Factories Act, 1937.

RATING.

The rateable value shows a decrease of £740, which is due to the exclusion from the Valuation list of Electricity and Freight Transport Hereditaments, as required by the provisions of the Local Government Act, 1948.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient Servant,

H.H. HOLLICK,

Medical Officer of Health.

June, 1949.